to review the operation of air transport service in the North East and suggest improvement in the airports of the region. The first meeting of the Committee has already been held on 4.10.96.

Lanjigarh-Junagarh Railway Line

992. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the budgetary allocation made for completion of the construction of Lanjigarh-Junagarh railway line during the current financial year;

(b) whether the Government was requested to raise the allocation during the Budget Session;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the reaction of the Government thereon; and

(e) the amount actually released so far for the purpose during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Rs. 1 cr.

(b) and (c) Demands were made by various MPs in this regard during discussion.

(d) Land acquisition has been taken up and work has commenced on a short stretch of .land at Bhawanipatna which Orissa Govt. has made available so far. However, this line was approved by the Planning Commission to serve the proposed Alumina Plants which were to come up in the area. The Alumina Plants are now coming up elsewhere, as such, Planning Commission have been requested to clear the construction of this line as a developmental project. The question of allotting additional funds to this work would be considered once their clearance is received.

(e) Rs. 1 cr.

Dispute on Duty Free Shops at International Airports

993. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the India Tourism Development Croporation (ITDC) has sought the Government's permission to approach 'Courts of Law' against the Airport Authority of India (AAI) over a dispute on duty-free shops at international airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to resolve the dispute between ITDC and AAI amicably?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. ITDC sought Government's permission to approach Court of Law against the Airport Authority of India (AAI) over a dispute on the process of alloting additional space for operating Duty Free Shops at India's five International Airports. Having regard to the fact that the issues involved in the dispute would require an adjudication by the court, the Govt. has permitted ITDC Ltd. to approach the Court of Law for the legal remedies.

Geological Survey of India

994. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :
SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has recently discovered a huge deposits of minerals including some precious stones in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise; and

(c) the action plan worked out for exploration of the same, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b). Geological Survey of India (GSI) has recently discovered deposits of minerals which include precious stone (diamond) in the country. The significant additional mineral resources established during last three years include :

State	Minerals
1	2
1. Andhra Pradesh	- Coal, Gold ore, 170 tonnes of Kimberlite material has yielded 120 pieces of diamond weighing 13.65 carats and about 225 tonnes of colluvial material yielding 13 diamonds weighing 2.65 carats.
2. Bihar	- Coal, 0.43 million tonnes of Copper-Lead-Zinc ore with 9.93% total metal content, Gold Ore.
3. Madhya Pradesh	- Coal, 7.38 metre thick of ore zone having 1.66% Copper content and 8.6% Zinc, Gold Ore, 2.17 million tonne of medium grade manganese Ore, Kimberlite pipes.
4. Maharashtra	- Coal, 0.7 million tonne of ore with 1.2% Copper, Gold Ore.
5. Orissa	- Coal, Gold Ore.
6. West Bengal	- Coal
7. Tamil Nadu	- Lignite, 3.38 million tonnes (0.05% to 0.116% Mo) of Molybdenum Ore.

1	2
8. Uttar Pradesh	- Lead and Zinc ore.
9. Rajasthan	- Lead and Zinc Ore. Gold Ore.
10. Kerala	- Gold Ore
11. Karnataka	- Gold Ore
12. Meghalaya	- 2265 million tonnes of superior grade of limestone. Basemental.

(c) 170 mineral investigations are proposed to be taken in the coming year which include about 40 Nos. of Coal and Lignite, 50 Nos. for Gold, 27 Nos. for Basemetal, 10 Nos. for Strategic and Rare Minerals, 9 Nos. for diamond, 14 Nos. for Dimensional stones and remaining around 20 Nos for ferrous minerals, Limestone and other industrial minerals. Statement showing the above details is enclosed Explorations of minerals are an ongoing process according to plan priority decided by the Government from time to time.

STATEMENT

Region Wise	Name of Minerals and No. of Investigations				
1	2				
1 *Central*					
Maharashtra	Gold 5	Manganese 2	Dimensional stones 2		
Madhya Pradesh	Basemetals 2	Gold 4	Diamond 1	Dimensional stones 3	
2 *Eastern*					
West Bengal and Andaman Nicobar	Basemetal 1	Gold 2	Dimensional stones 1		
Sikkim	Gold 1				
Bihar	Basemetals 2	Gold 5	Precious and Semi Precious stones 1	Rare Metal/ Rare Earth elements 1	
	Dimensional Stone 1				
Orissa	Gold 3	Precious metals 1	Manga-nese 4	Precious & Semi-precious 3	Dimensional stones 1
3 *North Eastern*					
Arunachal Pradesh	Industrial Minerals 2				
Assam	Gold 2				
Meghalaya	Gold 1	Dimensional stone 1	Industrial Minerals 2		
Manipur	Nil				
Tripura	Nil				
4 *Northern*					
Uttar Pradesh	Basemetals 2	Gold/Strategic minerals 5	Dimensional stones 1		

1	2			
Punjab	Nil			
Haryana	Basemetal 2	Rare Metals 1		
Himachal Pradesh	Basemetal 2	Strategic Minerals 2		
Jammu and Kashmir	Basemetal 1	Strategic Minerals 1		
5. *Southern*				
Andhra Pradesh	Gold 5	Diamond 4	Dimensional stones 2	Industrial Minerals 2
Karnataka	Gold 10	Dimensional Stones 1		
Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry	Molybdenum 5	Dimensional stone 1	Refractory Minerals 1	Industrial Minerals 2
	Rare Earth and Rare Metals 1			
Kerala	Clay 1	Gold 3	Dimensional stone 1	
6. *Western*				
Rajasthan	Basemetals 8	Gold 2	Lignite 2	Dimensional stone 1
Gujarat	Basemetal 2			

7. *Airborne Mineral Surveys and Exploration Wing*

Mineral Surveys 8 Nos. of Investigations, Airborne Geophysical Surveys 5 Nos. of Investigations. Ground Evaluation of Aerogeophysical anomalies 7 Nos. of Investigations.

8. *Coal Wing*

40 Investigations for coal and lignite in the States of West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra.

[Translation]

Less Number of Unreserved Coaches in Long Distance Trains

995. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the difficulties being faced by the labourers travelling to Delhi, Punjab and various parts of the country from Purnia, Bihar due to less number of unreserved coaches in long distance trains; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for increasing the unreserved coaches in long distance trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). At present, 2-7 Second class unreserved coaches in addition to two second class passenger-cum-luggage vans are available on most of the long distance trains which by and large cater to the unreserved travel needs. However, during certain periods like holidays, marriages, festivals, sowing and harvesting seasons, when there is heavy rush, Railways arrange special trains and augmentation of trains. Further the frequency of 5209/5210 Jansewa Express, a fully